

REMARKS

The allowance of claims 1-14 and 27-40 is acknowledged.

The disclosure is objected to because of informalities on page 5 in the Brief Description of the Drawings. The Brief Description of the Drawings is amended herein such that Figure 2 is described as having a synchronous reset capability. Also, on page 6 at line 18, the word "sets" has been replaced with the word "resets." It is believed that objections to the specification are overcome.

Claim 45 is objected to because of an informality. The claim is canceled. However, the subject matter has been included in new independent claim 54, and, in the new independent claim, the language has been corrected as suggested by the Examiner. It is believed that the objection is overcome.

Claims 15-26, 46 and 52 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. The specific objections raised by the Examiner have been addressed by claim amendments recited herein. Accordingly, it is believed that the rejections are overcome, and reconsideration of the rejections is requested.

Claims 41, 42, 47 and 48 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Jia, *et al.* (U.S. Patent Number 6,633,188). In view of the amendments to the claims and the following remarks, the rejections are respectfully traversed, and reconsideration of the rejections is requested.

Claims 43-45 and 49-51 are objected to as being dependent upon rejected base claims, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Accordingly, independent claim 41 is amended to incorporate the allowable subject matter of claim 43, and independent claim 47 is amended to incorporate the allowable subject matter of claim 49. As a result, rejected claims 41, 42, 47 and 48 now incorporate allowable subject matter. Therefore, it is believed that the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) based on Jia, *et al.* are overcome, and reconsideration of the rejections is requested.

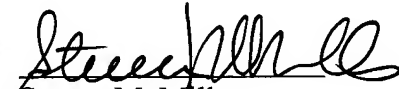
New independent claims 53-56 are allowable dependent claims 44, 45, 50 and 51, respectively, rewritten in independent form. Accordingly, it is believed that the new independent claims 53-56 are allowable.

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In view of the amendments to the specification and the claims and the foregoing remarks, it is believed that all claims pending in the application are in condition for allowance, and such allowance is respectfully solicited. If a telephone conference will expedite prosecution of the application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

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